

their husbands, always accomplish their mission.

RECOGNIZING THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL COCOA BEACH "FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND" KIDNEY WALK AND THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN THE PRECIOUS GIFT OF LIFE

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, May 7, 2022, thousands of residents from across Central Florida will gather at the Cocoa Beach Pier in Cocoa Beach, Florida, to take part in the Eleventh Annual "Footprints in the Sand" Cocoa Beach Kidney Walk. Katie and I have joined others in our community in participating every year since the first walk was organized in 2012 by Rich Salick, Bill Hahn and volunteers with the Florida Affiliate of the National Kidney Foundation.

The "Footprints in the Sand" Kidney Walk brings our community together to show our love and concern. So many of us have family, friends and loved ones that are afflicted by kidney disease, and they need our strength and support. The road ahead is not easy for them, but as the kidney walk demonstrates, they do not have to travel that path alone.

The National Kidney Foundation of Florida, its supporters and activists have made a significant difference in people's lives. They not only raise awareness about this disease, but they have helped push for much needed changes in our laws and new innovations to give patients more treatment options and a better quality of life. This year organizers of the kidney walk will recognize organ donors and their families for giving the precious gift of life so that others could receive a second chance and continue with their lives.

Those recognized include:

Dawn Futch honoring Micheal Futch, Vivien Pogeler honoring Scott Pogeler, Jasmin Persaud honoring Anand Persaud, Jennifer Eden honoring Blake Eden, Mandee Seitz honoring Aryia Grace, Teresa Ervin honoring Timothy Dean Ervin, Shebna Dorsey honoring Andrew Dorsey, Ellen Tuech honoring Geoffrey "Geoff" Wasden, Pat Brown honoring Michael Brown, Mary Carpenter honoring Shawn Carpenter, Tammy Lee honoring Dylan Rowe, Sherri Wilson honoring William "Garrett" Coe, Kathleen Deleonardo honoring Anthony Deleonardo, Monica Beyrooti honoring Seth Beyrooti, Susan Sharp honoring Sean Sharp, Leslie Collins honoring Jose Collins, and Nancy Velazquez honoring Pedro Batista.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the strong will of these caring families, their loved ones and all those who have joined the effort and worked tirelessly to raise awareness about kidney disease.

BLUESTAR RECYCLERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize BlueStar Recyclers for winning the Golden Rotary's 2022 Ethics in Business Award.

Each year, the Golden Rotary Club awards one for-profit company and one non-profit organization for their outstanding ethical behavior and leadership. The community is asked to nominate organizations whom they think display the highest standards of ethical business practices, integrity, and civic and social responsibility. Winners are then chosen by students in an Ethics class at the Colorado School of Mines.

A non-profit organization, BlueStar works to recycle electronics and other materials and in turn create local jobs for people with autism and other disabilities. Their mission has enabled them to be successful while making a huge impact on our community. There are countless examples of BlueStar's positive impact in our community and high ethical and moral standards. The company boasts some of the lowest turnover, absenteeism, and lost-time accident rates in the industry. Testimonies from employees show a positive workplace environment and personal growth opportunities for all employees.

BlueStar has proven to be a highly successful organization which helps people with disabilities, provides an excellent return on investment for its customers while being environmentally-conscious and giving back to their community. Congratulations to BlueStar Recyclers on receiving this award from the Golden Rotary Club and I thank them for their ethical leadership and ongoing contributions to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Infertility Awareness Week to salute the parents, doctors, researchers, and many others for the extraordinary advancements made over the last four decades to help individuals build families who, without this progress, could not do so. National Infertility Awareness Week, founded in 1989 by RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, is the largest public awareness campaign that addresses the public health issue of infertility.

Most Americans are not aware that one in eight, or nearly 7.4 million Americans are hindered by the disease of infertility. It affects both men and women and knows no barriers.

Infertility affects all races, religious backgrounds, and every economic status. I introduce this bipartisan resolution to highlight this issue, encourage research, and support all those affected by infertility.

Since 1978, extraordinary medical advancements have enabled millions of couples to receive life-affirming treatments that resulted in the delivery of babies. We must continue this progress and especially work to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in research and treatment. Bringing a child into the world is truly a blessing and should be available for anyone who wants to start a family, no matter their background.

The contributions that research scientists have made to advance infertility treatments—including a procedure that allows young cancer patients to preserve their fertility prior to undergoing lifesaving chemotherapy treatments—are utterly amazing. Organizations like RESOLVE, the National Infertility Association, and the Alliance for Fertility Preservation, all advocate for the millions of individuals and couples in this country who need help to have a family.

I know from my own infertility experience, that to realize the dream of having children, we must better understand infertility and how it affects individuals and families to advocate for sensible solutions, more effectively.

Ms. Barb Collura, the CEO of RESOLVE, has testified before Congress in support of fertility services for the countless military veterans whose service-related injuries have rendered them infertile. There are also others such as Joyce Reinecke, Executive Director of the Alliance for Fertility Preservation and cancer survivor, has lent her voice to the importance of affordable fertility preservation options for individuals undergoing cancer treatment. In fact, in the absence of adequate coverage, charitable organizations provide valuable, life-changing, financial assistance to cancer survivors who would like to have children but lack support.

Congress can do more to remove barriers that currently exist for those who experience infertility challenges. And I applaud my colleagues, including Congresswomen JULIA BROWNLEY, ROSA DELAURIO, MARILYN STRICKLAND, and Congressman RICK LARSEN for joining me in introducing legislation devoted to eliminating obstacles to building families.

I also salute the millions of infertility warriors throughout the country and the world, who advocate on behalf of that most precious of gifts, that of creating a family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 127. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 127.